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ARAB STATES

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25.10.51.

The ex-shufti and the extradition of political criminals.

The following information was obtained on the 13th October 1951. Our Cairo representative comments that a motion for the legal extradition between the Arab States of political criminals was considered by the Political Committee of the Arab League on 10th October; discussion was adjourned to allow the Governments concerned to comment, on condition that such comment reached the League within two months, when legislation would become effective and be put into operation, if no reply had been received in the meantime.

(i) The ex-shufti of Jerusalem was instrumental in securing a two months' postponement of the Arab League's decision on the extradition of political criminals, in spite of the insistence of Iraq, Jordan and the Lebanon that it should be passed during the League's current session.

(ii) The ex-shufti's objective, in agreement with Amman Pasha and Salah al Din Pasha, is to arrange in the interim for Colonel Abdullah Tell and Musa Ahmed Ayyubi (both sentenced to death in absentia for complicity in the murder of King Abdullah) to escape to Pakistan or some other Moslem country.

2. At the same time our Amman representative has obtained the following information from another well placed source.

(i) The ex-shufti has been in touch with King Ibn Saud over the future of Colonel Abdullah Tell.

(ii) He has obtained King Ibn Saud's agreement to employ Abdullah Tell as a Colonel in the Saudi-Arabian army, in the event of Tell's expulsion from Egypt.